

## Raga of the Month- August, 2012-

### Madhusurawali/Taralika.

There are many Ragas in Hindustani Classical Music which belong to Kouns family but do not have the suffix Kouns in their name. They follow the common characteristics of Kouns family i.e. i) a pentatonic structure- having 5 notes; ii) generally consists of Shuddha Madhyam and Komal or Shuddha notes of Gandhar, Dhaivat and Nishad in different combinations, and some have 5 notes in Aroha and 6 or 7 notes in Avaroha. The Raga Madhusurawali has 5 notes and contains both Shuddha and Teevra Madhyama M- and –m-. This Raga has been introduced by Pandit Balwantraai Bhatt.

The Raga is based on the structure of Raga MadhuKouns. Additionally it includes use of Shuddha Madhyama –M- as gMg, 'ngS. The Raga therefore can be considered as MadhuKouns *plus* Shuddha Madhyama or a mixture of MadhuKouns and Raga Rishabhavarjita Dhani (omitting Rishabh -R- from Raga Dhani). The combination yields a highly charming melodic structure. A harsh atmosphere created by use of Teevra Madhyama is balanced by a soothing touch of Kafi anga-Komal Gandhar and Shuddha Madhyama.

MadhuKouns- Aroha- Sg,mP,nS'' ; Avaroha-S'' nP, mPgmg, 'n gS

Rishabhvarjita Dhani- Aroha- SgMPnS''; Avaroha- S'' nPMg, S

Madhusurawali- Chalan- Sg 'ngS, SgmP, mPgMg, Mg 'ngS;

SgmP, gMPnPnS'', PnS''g'' ng''S'';

gmPnS'', S'' nP, mnP, mPgMg, PMgS 'n gS.

Presented here is an excerpt of the Raga Madhusurawali sung by Padmashri Balwantraai Bhatt, a leading disciple of the great musician of Gwalior Gharana, Padmashri Omkarnath Thakur.

### Listen